

upper tail-coverts very broad, much-prolonged and hair-like; bill black, basal half of the under mandible straw-colour.

Total length, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches; bill, $1\frac{1}{2}$; wing, $2\frac{3}{8}$; tail, 3.

Hab. Peru?

Remark.—This bird belongs to the same section as the *T. Bourcierii*, *T. Guy*, *T. Eurynome*, &c. of Less., and equals in size the largest of them.

The species described by me at the meeting of June 9, 1846, (present vol. pp. 129, 130) were

18. *TROCHILUS* (*PETASOPHORA*) *CORUSCANS*, a beautiful species allied to the *Anais*, but whose locality is unknown to me.

19. *TROCHILUS* (—?) *FLABELLIFERA*, which is nearly allied to, but a much larger species than *T. mellivora*, said to inhabit Mexico; and

20. *TROCHILUS* (—?) *STROPHIANUS*, a fine new species of the same form as the *Clarisse* and the *Parzudaki*.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH.

June 11, 1846.—Professor Balfour, President, in the Chair.

The following communications were read:—

1. "On the presence of Fluorine in Plants," by Dr. George Wilson.

2. "Notice of the discovery of *Luzula nivea*, in a wood at Broomhall, near Dunfermline," by Dr. Dewar.

3. "On the distinctions between *Parietaria erecta* and *P. diffusa* of Mertens and Koch," by Charles C. Babington, M.A., F.L.S.

4. "Observations on some rare Plants gathered in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh," by Dr. Balfour and Mr. Evans. Fresh specimens of some of the rarest of these were exhibited to the meeting, among which may be mentioned, *Oxytropis uralensis*, *Vicia lutea*, *Orobanche rubra*, *Carduus setosus*, *Luzula nivea*, *Lepidium rudemale*, and *Malcolmia maritima*.

July 9.—Professor Balfour, President, in the Chair.

The following communications were read:—

1. "Observations on the Plant yielding the drug Mudar of India," by Dr. Douglas Maclagan.

2. "Remarks on the elongation of the peduncle of *Vallisneria spiralis*," by H. Denny, Esq., Leeds. In this communication Mr. D. alluded particularly to the rapidity of its growth, and to its non-spiral nature, in the specimens of the pistilliferous plant grown by him; he also noticed the rapid evolution of gas from the plants when placed in the sun.

3. "Remarks on the Greenheart, or Beeberu-Bark Tree of Demerara," by Dr. G. R. Bonyun. Dr. B. stated, that the description of the parts of the flower as given by Schomburgk, is not quite correct, and thinks that the plant cannot be referred to the genus *Nectandra*. According to Dr. Bonyun, it has an 8, 10, or 12-partite perigone, outer segments persistent, stamens varying from twelve to

twenty, all fertile, with two minute scales at the base of each. A drawing of the plant accompanied the communication.

Dr. Balfour noticed the discovery, by Mr. Crichton, of *Campanula rapunculoides*, near Luffness.

Mr. James M'Nab exhibited a beautiful collection of British Orchids, containing specimens of all the species known as natives, with one exception.

Some new and rare plants from the hothouses of the Botanic Garden were exhibited to the meeting, among which *Thomasia tomentosa* from Swan River, *Posoqueria longiflora*, *Abutilon Russelianum*, *Pistia stratiotes* in flower, and a new species of *Turraea*, were particularly interesting.

November 12.—Professor Balfour, President, in the Chair.

The following communications were read:—

1. "On three species of *Glyceria*," by Mr. Fred. Townsend. The author gave full descriptions of *Glyceria fuitans*, Br., *G. plicata*, Fries, and of a supposed new species found in Cambridgeshire and Warwickshire, which he proposes to name *G. hybrida*, and pointed out the distinctions by which they may be known from each other.

2. Dr. Balfour read a description of *Exogonium Purga*, Benth., the true Jalap plant, and noticed some points connected with its medical history. The jalap plant was for a long time referred to *Convolvulus Jalapa* of Linnæus and Willdenow, or *Ipomœa macrorhiza* of Michaux, a native of Vera Cruz. It has recently been proved, however, from various sources, to be the plant now under notice, which grows in the hill country near Jalapa in Mexico, at a height of about 6000 feet above the level of the sea. The plant was first sent to the Edinburgh Botanic Garden by Dr. Christison, who received it from Dr. Coxe of Philadelphia, and it has flowered several times in a cold frame. It belongs to the Nat. Ord. Convolvulacæ. Specimens of the recent plant were exhibited. He also exhibited a fresh specimen in flower of *Stenocarpus Cunninghamsi* of Hooker. This plant has been long known in gardens under the name of *Agnostus sinuatus*. It is a small evergreen tree belonging to the Nat. Order Proteacæ. It was found by Allan Cunningham on the banks of the Brisbane River, Moreton Bay, and has flowered this season for the first time in Britain.

3. "Remarks on a *Pyrola* found in Lancashire," by Mr. Kenyon. Specimens of this plant, which is considered by its discoverer as a new species, and which he proposes to call *P. maritima*, in allusion to the localities in which it is generally found, were shown to the meeting. It is nearly allied to *P. rotundifolia*, from which it may be distinguished by its size, the form and length of its sepals, and length of the stamens. Some excellent botanists who have examined it, are of opinion that it is only a variety of that species.

Mr. Wm. M'IVOR of the Kew Gardens sent specimens of an *Orobanche*, considered by him to be *O. lucorum*, Braun, gathered on Epsom Downs; also *Thorea ramosissima*, from Studley, Yorkshire; and *Hormospora mutabilis*, from the Thames, near Walton.